



**Frederick County
Government
Frederick, Maryland**

News Release

Winchester Hall / 12 East Church Street
Frederick, Maryland 21701
CONTACT: Robin K. Santangelo
Public Information Officer
301-600-2590
TTY: Use Maryland Relay
rsantangelo@FrederickCountyMD.gov

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COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SET UP GROWTH TASK FORCE

FREDERICK, MD – The Frederick Board of County Commissioners today unanimously agreed to set up a Growth Task Force to review and investigate the impacts of housing and development growth in the county.

Today's discussion came about as the board considered whether to seek transfer tax authority from the Maryland General Assembly in the county's 2014 legislative package and to reduce the current rate of the county's school and library impact fees to \$0.

Board President Blaine Young said, "We were considering a change from an impact fee that is imposed on new development to a transfer tax that would be used to build new schools and libraries. However, we have surveyed members of the Frederick County Delegation and do not find support at this time for a transfer tax. Instead, we will move forward with an update to our impact fee study to get more current information and set up a Growth Task Force to explore how other counties address growth issues.

"County Manager Lori Depies will lead the task force and it will be comprised of a member from the delegation, the Board of County Commissioners, the Frederick County Association of Realtors, the Frederick County Builders Association, a municipality and the Frederick Chamber of Commerce, a representative from the senior, library and education communities, and various county staff from finance and legal departments. The meetings will be open to the public and we look forward to taking the findings to the delegation for consideration."

The task force has been charged to examine the ways counties use impact fees and transfer taxes statewide.

The Growth Task Force will hold its first meeting at 3:00 p.m. on November 19 in the third floor meeting room of Winchester Hall, 12 East Church Street, Frederick, Md.

For more information, contact Acting Finance Division Director Erin White at 301-600-1117 or via e-mail at ewhite@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

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